



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
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BAG LIMITS ON WATERFOWL  
REDUCED FOR NEXT SEASON

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Change in Federal Regulations Is in Accord with  
Legislation Passed in 29 States  
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Secretary Hyde advised to-day that upon his recommendation the daily bag limits of ducks and geese allowed gunners will be reduced for the next season, that is 1930-31, by changes in the Federal regulations under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

The necessity for this reduction has become evident from exhaustive field investigation by the Department of Agriculture, which has disclosed that waterfowl have not been holding their own in the past year. The unusual drought that prevailed during the past season, and the reclamation of large former breeding grounds in the northwest States and Canada, have resulted in cumulative losses of great areas of marsh and water.

This reduction has been vigorously insisted upon by the principal game associations, the Izaak Walton League of America, the Western Association of State Game Commissioners, the Association of North Central States Game and Fish Departments, and several others.

At its annual meeting in December the American Game Conference, attended by representative sportsmen and conservationists from all parts of the continent, adopted resolutions to this end. At its annual meeting in Washington in December, the Migratory Bird Treaty Act Advisory Board, made up of representative sportsmen and game conservationists from all parts of the country, passed a resolution by an almost unanimous vote urging that this action be taken.

Twenty-nine States have passed legislation reducing the bag below the Federal standards, and many of them have protested at the holding of Federal standards above their State limits because of the difficulties created in enforcement.

The regulations will go in force after the present season, and the bag will be reduced from present limit on ducks of 25 to 15 a day and on geese from 8 to 4 a day and a possession limit of 30 ducks and 8 geese is also prescribed.

agriculture are neutral. The western chipmunks, living as they do largely in mountains and the wilderness, remote from agricultural sections, also are mainly neutral in their relation to man's interests. Occasionally, however, where their habitat borders on cultivated fields, they do some damage locally to crops. \* \* \* They sometimes prove troublesome on areas that have been planted for reforestation by eating the tree seeds. If chipmunks are abundant in regions where forest planting is being carried on they frequently eat or carry off a good share of the planted seeds, and it has been found necessary in order to insure a successful stand first to reduce the numbers of chipmunks by trapping or poisoning. Under natural conditions they apparently have no harmful effect on forest growth."

Another feature of the report is an annotated bibliography containing more than 100 titles of published papers relating to American chipmunks, the earliest one listed being that of the English naturalist Catesby in 1743 containing the first description and figure of the eastern chipmunk.

Copies of the new report, North American Fauna No. 52, may be obtained from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C., at 35 cents each.

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